**H　Japan's famous places**

Hello, friends. We are going to introduce Japanese famous places : Nikkou toushouguu, Kyoto and Nara, Hirosima Atomic Bomb Dome, Itsukushima Shinto shrine, and Fukuoka. All of them are popular among tourists from both foreign countries and Japan. This is a great chance for you to know about Japan. Now, we’ll start. Attention please.

**Nikko Toshogu**

I’m introducing Nikko Toshogu. It is a shrine and was built about 400 years ago in Tochigi Prefecture. It is a gate called Youmei Mon. It is so beautiful and luxurious. But it is not only shrine but also a grave of Japanese famous Syogun, Tokugawa Ieyasu. It was registered as UNESCO’s World Heritage in 1999.

They are 3 monkeys of Nikkou Toshogu. One is covering its ears, another is covering its mouth, and the other is covering its eyes. The massage is that children should grow as honest people without listening, speaking, and watching wrong actions of bad adults in childhood.

If you have a chance, please go and see Nikkou Toushougu. Thank you.

**Kingaku-ji (Kingakuji-temple)**

Next, let me introduce Kinkaku-ji. This temple was built by Syogun Ashikaga Yosimitsu about 600 years ago in Kyoto.

**Kiyomizudera(Kiyomizudera-temple)**

This is Kiyomizu-dera. This temple is known for the terrace called “Kiyomizu no butai”. It means “the stage of Kiyomizu”. This is registered UNESCO’s World Heritage.

**Todiaji Nandaimon (Todaiji-temple South Gate)**

This is Todaiji Nandaimon, and it is a big gate. These two sculptures are Kongo-rikisizou. The right sculpture is called “U”ngyo, and the left one is called “A”nngyo, because the shapes of their mouth is like the shapes of our mouths when we utter “U” and “A”.

**Hiroshima (Atomic Bomb Dome)**

I will introduce Hiroshima. It is located in the Mainland of Japan. This is Hiroshima Atomic Bomb Dome. The original building was built about 100 years ago. At first, it was a souvenir shop. But 30 years later, it became an appearance that no one anticipated. August 6, 1945, an atom bomb was dropped in Hiroshima. It had the massive radioactive power which devastated all of Hiroshima. However the Dome could remain miraculously. At present, this Dome was registered as one of the World Cultural Heritage**.** Many people visit there. It can be said “an Emblem of Peace.” wishing the world peace.

**Itsukushima Shrine**

Next, let me tell you about Itsukushima Shinto Shrine. It was built by the shogun, Taira no Kiyomori about 850 years ago. This gate is Torii in Japanese, a symbol of the shrine. When the water level goes up to more than 250 cm, Torii looks to float on the sea. It is so beautiful.

If you have a chance, please go to Hiroshima. Thank you.

**Fukuoka (Our town)**

Now I will introduce you our city Fukuoka, in the biggest prefecture in Kyusyu. We can enjoy shopping in downtown Tenjin. There are a lot of shrines or temple so we can learn about Japanese history.

**Fukuoka dome (Baseball Stadium)**

First, I’ll introduce Fukuoka Dome. The dome is 213 meters across. It is one of the famous symbols of Fukuoka. Its roof can open and close. You never believe this, but one opening costs a million yen. We can watch baseball games here. So many baseball funs go there.

**Fukuoka Tower**

Next, I’ll tell about Fukuoka Tower. It is 234 meters high and we can go up 123 meters observatory and enjoy very beautiful panorama of Fukuoka city. It has 8000 half mirrors. It also has a tearoom on top. So we can enjoy both panorama and tea. Now, I’ll ask you a question. Fukuoka Tower has a nickname. What is it?

1 Another Tokyo tower 2 Mirror Sail 3 Mirror chimney

Answer is 2. To tell the truth, most of us don’t call it so and many of us don’t know that.